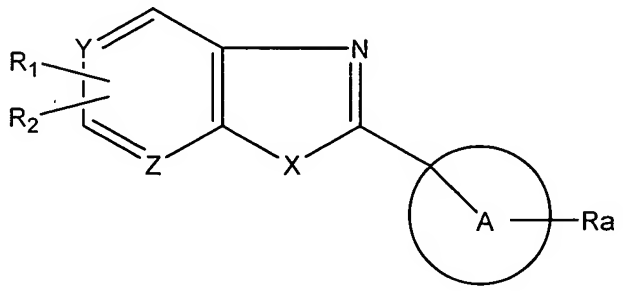
In the Claims

Applicant has submitted a new complete claim set indicating marked up claims with insertions and deletions indicated by underlining and strikeouts, respectively.

1. (Currently amended) A compound of formula (I)



(I)

or a salt thereof, or a solvate thereof, wherein;

X represents ~~oxygen, sulphur, or~~ NR_b, wherein R_b represents hydrogen, unsubstituted or substituted C_{1-6} alkyl or unsubstituted or substituted C_{1-6} alkylcarbonyl;

Y and Z each independently represent nitrogen, CH, CR_1 or CR_2;

A represents an unsubstituted or substituted aryl group ~~or an unsubstituted or substituted heterocyclyl group~~;

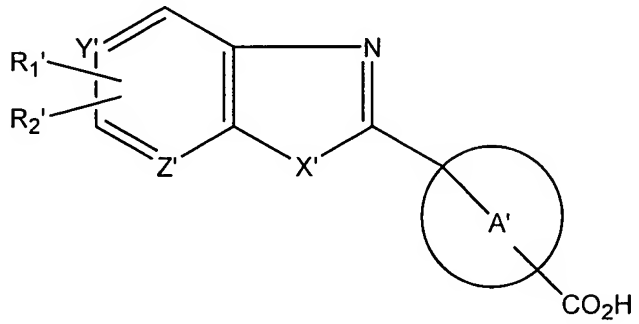
R_a represents $-C(O)NR_sR_t$ wherein R_s and R_t each independently represent hydrogen, unsubstituted or substituted C_{1-6} alkyl, unsubstituted or substituted C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, unsubstituted or substituted C_{1-6} alkenyl, unsubstituted or substituted aryl, unsubstituted or substituted aryl C_{1-6} alkyl, unsubstituted or substituted heterocyclyl or an unsubstituted or substituted heterocyclyl C_{1-6} alkyl group, or R_s and R_t together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form a heterocyclyl group;

R_1 and R_2 each independently represents hydrogen, hydroxy, amino, C_{1-6} alkoxy, unsubstituted or substituted aryloxy, unsubstituted or substituted benzyloxy, C_{1-6} alkylamino, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, halo, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, nitro, C_{1-6} alkyl, carboxy,

alkoxycarbonyl, carbamoyl, C_{1-6} alkylcarbamoyl, or R_1 and R_2 together represent methylenedioxy, $-(CH=CH)_{2-3}-$, carbonyldioxy or carbonyldiamino.

2. (Previously presented) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I) according to claim 1, or a salt thereof or a solvate thereof, wherein said process comprises the steps of:

(a) amidation of a carboxylic acid having the formula:



wherein X', Y', Z', A', $R_{1'}$ and $R_{2'}$ each respectively represent X, Y, Z, A, R_1 and R_2 as defined in claim 1 or a protected form thereof,

with an amine having the formula:

$$HNR_{s'}R_{t'}$$

wherein Rs' and $R_{t'}$ each respectively represent R_s and R_t as defined in claim 1 or a protected form thereof, and

(b) optionally preparing a salt or solvate thereof.

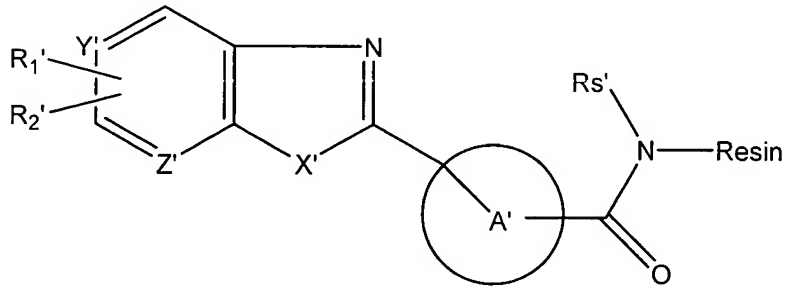
3. (Previously presented) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I) according to claim 2, further comprising the steps of :

(i) converting the compound of formula (I) formed in step (a) or step (b) into another compound of formula (I);

(ii) removing any protecting group; and

(iii) preparing a salt or a solvate thereof.

4. (Previously presented) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I) according to claim 1, or a salt thereof or a solvate thereof, wherein said process comprises cleavage of a compound of formula (VIII) at the N-Resin bond



(VIII)

wherein X', Y', Z', A', $R_{1'}$, $R_{2'}$ and $R_{s'}$ each respectively represent X, Y, Z, A, R_1, R_2 and R_s as defined in claim 1.

5. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a pharmaceutically acceptable solvate thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier therefor.

6. (Previously presented) A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of diseases associated with over activity of osteoclasts in mammals wherein said method comprises the administration of an effective non-toxic amount of a compound of formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable solvate thereof.

7. (Original) A method for the treatment of osteoporosis and related osteopenic diseases in a human or non-human mammal, which comprises administering an effective, non-toxic, amount of a compound of formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a pharmaceutically acceptable solvate thereof, to a human or non-human mammal in need thereof.

8. (Previously presented) A method for the treatment of tumours, viral conditions, ulcers, autoimmune diseases and transplantation, for the treatment or prevention of hypercholesterolemic and atherosclerotic diseases, AIDS, Alzheimer's disease, and angiogenic diseases in a human or non-human mammal, which method comprises administering an effective, non-toxic, amount of a compound of formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a pharmaceutically acceptable solvate thereof, to a human or non-human mammal in need thereof.

9-15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 8, wherein the treatment of tumours comprises ~~treatement~~ treatment of renal cancer, melanoma, colon cancer, lung cancer and leukemia.

17. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein the treatment of viral conditions comprises treatment of Semliki Forest virus, Vesicular Stomatitis, Newcastle Disease, Influenza A and B and HIV viruses.

18. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein the treatment of ulcers comprises treatment of chronic gastritis and peptic ulcers induced by Helicobacter pylori.

19. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein the treatment of angiogenic diseases comprises treatment of rheumatoid arthritis, diabetic retinopathy, psoriasis and solid tumours.